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*3/19/04*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Firmin Garcia	)	<u>PATENT APPLICATION</u>
		)	VAL1599P0261 (1649)
Serial No.:	10/067,018	)	
		)	Group Art Unit: 3752
Filed:	February 4, 2002	)	
		)	Confirmation No. 4106
For:	FLUID PRODUCT DISPENSER	)	
		)	
Examiner:	Not Yet Designated	)	

*#4/205*

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, the art identified on the attached form PTO-1449 and other matters discussed below may be helpful to the Patent Office in its examination of the application identified above.

A copy of each of the documents is enclosed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

Enclosed is a copy of the Rapport De Recherche Préliminaire (Preliminary Search Report) from the French Patent Office in respect of the French patent application 01.01620 filed February 7, 2001 of which priority is claimed in the above-captioned U.S. patent application. Also enclosed is a copy of each of the documents cited in the Search Report.

COMMENTS ON CITATIONS

The following comments are directed to the documents disclosed in the accompanying form PTO-1449. Non-English language documents without translation are discussed with a concise explanation pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(i).

DE 32 02 597 A1 appears to show a device for ejecting liquid. FIGS. 6 and 7 show valve mechanisms for opening or cutting off flow through a passage. FIG. 5 also appears to show a sliding device for cutting off flow through passage 19.

Offenlegungsschrift 2,312,489 discloses a device containing liquid 6 and having an orifice 2 or 21 which appears to be initially occluded by members 3 and 4 biased to a closed position by a spring 5.

Both of the non-English language documents discussed above were indicated in the French Search Report as being "Category A" documents related to the general background technology.

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The order of listing of the art on the attached Form PTO-1449 should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the listed art.

The Patent and Trademark Office Examiner is requested to review the art and determine the extent of the materiality of the disclosures thereof with respect to the patentability of the subject invention. It is expected that the Patent and Trademark Office Examiner will independently conduct a complete search for relevant prior art.

No inference should be drawn and no representation is made or intended: (a) that a search has been made, or if made, was complete; (b) that the art on the attached list presents a comprehensive investigation of the prior art; or (c) that no more pertinent art than that listed is in existence. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)]

Citation of any art herein is not to be construed as an admission: (a) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily within the invention field of

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endeavor, pertinent to the instant invention, or equivalent to the instant invention; (b) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant in the instant patent application; (c) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b); and/or (d) that the art disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention and application. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g).]

No inference should be drawn that the discussion of any art herein is a discussion of each and every feature disclosed therein.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosures of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art cited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER

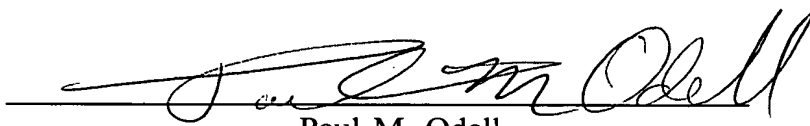
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on March 28, 2002.

  
Paul M. Odell